TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2000

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Recently I have experienced several sequential events and I would like to share them with you. First my ICOM 2-meter radio began to act up. A broken wire in the microphone cord caused the audio output to sound like I feel sometimes. Mike, KG4DSG repaired my microphone cord by putting new connectors on each end of the cord. That cured problem number one.

While we were attending the Shelby Hamfest, I hinted to Sherry that I sure would like to have one of those new Diamond Dual Band antennas for my pickup. Presto, in order to appease me she buys the antenna for me. Next problem - yep - I needed the antenna installed on said pickup. Guess what. I have this friend Warren, W4CEL. Yes, you guessed it. Before Warren knew it I had persuaded him to shop around the Shelby Hamfest and select the necessary hardware needed to install this newly acquired antenna. The appropriate hardware was located and Sherry agrees that it is OK to purchase same.

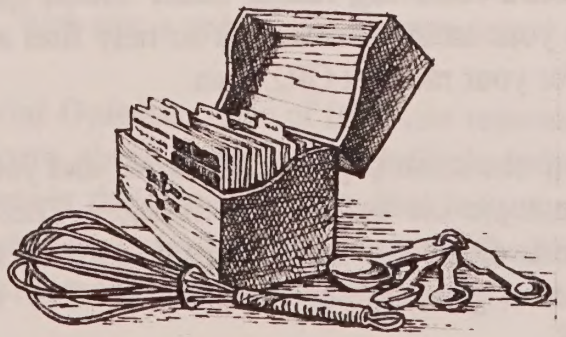
Now I have everything I need to talk to my friends on my 2-meter mobile unit except the installation of the antenna. Warren, would you mind?? Now I am back on the air and realize more every day what a fortunate guy I am to have such a fine group of friends. The old saying, "it is not what you know but who you know" that gets the job done.

Stephanie, K4MVO is in charge of teaching an amateur radio class at the Technician Class level. The class will begin Monday evening, September 11 at 6:30. This class will be held on Monday and Wednesday. After the Technician Class at approximately 7:30 a 5 WPM code class will be taught The classes will be held at Expedient Services on Cheney Highway.

If you know of anyone interested in taking this class be sure and let Stephanie know ASAP. She can be reached at 264-2492. If you are unable to reach Stephanie please call me at 269-0779

Pot Luck next meeting. As all of you know, you surely do not want to miss this treat. Looking forward to seeing you at the Pot Luck club meeting on 9/26/2000.

POT LUCK DINNER
ON
SEPTEMBER 26.
DINNER WILL BE SERVED
AT 6:30
BRING A COVERED DISH



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPT. 1 WB4SIG DAVE McLEAN
SEPT. 1 KF4UDO RANDY DAVIS
SEPT. 8 KF4LTY PAT RENNINGER
SEPT. 9 KF4QML KEVIN ZIMMERMAN
SEPT. 12 KG4AHL JEANNIE WOODRING
SEPT. 12 K4DII FRED McKENZIE
SEPT. 14 W4VQB BOB NEDIMYER
SEPT. 15 KF4LPB ROBERT HAMMOND
SEPT. 15 KC4HIQ SHIRLEY SWEATT
SEPT. 15 KE4GWQ CLYDE CARTER
SEPT. 15 KE4JAV TOM YENCSO
SEPT. 19 KD4CBV GEORGE BORTLE
SEPT. 19 W4WHL WILBUR LEGRO
SEPT. 24 KE4JBF JOAN HATFIELD
SEPT. 27 WA4QJK TOM McCALL
SEPT. 28 KZ4FG GEORGE FLORES
SEPT. 28 KD4UZS JOE CARTER

MODS FOR DIY RADIO AMATEURS

Need extra receiving range, better sound quality, etc. on your amateur radio? You may find a mod listed for your radio at QRZ.com.

Bring up the main page - scroll down and you will see the topic on the left-hand side. There are thousands of models listed with all sorts of mods. Plus lots of good info on these radios. 73s Clyde K4EOS

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

BLEU CHEESE DRESSING
From Norm Foster AA4FY

2 Cups Mayonnaise
2 Small cans evaporated milk
½ Cup vinegar
1 Teaspoon Garlic Powder (optional)
1 Teaspoon salt (half amount will do)
½ Pound Bleu Cheese crumbled coarsely

Mix all except cheese, then stir in cheese being careful not to break up cheese too much. Refrigerate and let ripen one day. Mixture will thicken as you use it. Good for salads, a night snack on toast, on sliced tomatoes, chips, etc. Reported to be excellent for broken bones, mental illness, loss of memory and leprosy.

LOOKING FOR

SLUGS FOR BIRD WATTMETER
AND
DSP FILTER
CONTACT
ARCHIE WN3DHI
267-8918

FOR SALE

YAESU FT-840 W/CW FILTERS
(YOU CAN STILL SMELL THE NEW FINALS)
KENWOOD TM-231 2M RADIO
CUSHMAN R7 VERTICAL
AES ISOPOLE W/ ABOUT 40' OF RG-213 FOR DIRECT BURIAL.
CONTACT
DAVID KA0YSO
633-4888

FCC SAYS "NO" TO SSB, DIGITAL MODES IN VHF CW SUBBANDS

From CyberSkip 8/2000

The FCC has turned down a request asking it to permit SSB and digital modes in the 6 and 2-meter CW-only subbands. The petition was filed last August by the California Six Meter Club and was assigned rulemaking number RM-9806. The FCC sought comment on the proposal early this year.

The CSMC said it requested the additional emission types because its survey of weak-signal operations indicated that the CW-only segments are hardly used. The club said most DX and weak signal work takes place on frequencies above the CW subbands.

The FCC said it received one comment, which opposed the petition.

In denying the request, the FCC said it did not believe the requested revisions were necessary or had the support of the amateur community. The FCC said the petition's premise that the segments 50.0 to 50.1 MHz and 144.0 to 144.1 MHz appear "virtually unused" was contradicted by an earlier petition filed by the Central States VHF Society. The CSVHFS had sought additional spectrum to protect so-called weak signal operations from wideband modes. The FCC dismissed the CSVHFS petition last November.

The FCC concluded that authorizing additional emission types in the 6-meter and 2-meter CW subbands "could have an adverse impact on the operating activities of other licensees." Additionally, the FCC said, CSMC did not show that any improvement in communications capabilities would result from opening up another 100 kHz of spectrum for other emission types, which the FCC said already were "adequately accommodated." The FCC action was released June 28.

USPS WANTS TO LINK E-MAIL TO REGULAR MAIL

From CyberSkip 8/2000

The idea behind the project, according to the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) is to lay the foundation of a real link between the postal and online worlds of e-mail addresses. Ultimately, the database could allow urgent portal mail to be scanned and sent as e-mail attachments for printout on a home terminal.

This is all in the future, but come this September, USPS plans to offer an e-mail service to all comers, with local post offices printing out incoming e-mail and delivering it with the regular postal mail every morning. The WSJ said that senders would be charged 41 cents for a two page message.

The technology has already been used in Europe for several years and is known as a telemessage. Designed to replace the telegram in many areas, telemessages can be dictated over the phone, written out at post offices, or sent on the Web.

The WSJ said that sign-up to the e-mail database service will be entirely voluntary, with users expected to make their own way online, either through a paid-for Internet service provider, or one of the new generation of free ISPs such as NetZero or SpinWay.com.

The paper said that e-mail plans for the USPS are still at a very early stage, but the postal service ultimately sees users downloading their e-mail from USPS computers online, or collecting it in the lobbies of post offices and/or postal offices. The USPS' Web site is at http://www.usps.com.

Editorial Opinion: One of the main reasons there is concern about cookies, DoubleClick and scores of others is that their ultimate goal is to equate e-mail addresses with physical names and addresses. They want a complete profile of a user

There are two near daily aggravations that most of us must endure: 1. The delivery of the USPS mail of which 90% of it is junk and 2. The downloading of daily e-mail of which most of it is spam but must be given a quick glance nevertheless.

Now I ask you, can you imagine the implications of the USPS compiling a database of individual's physical addresses with their e-mail addresses? This would be Shangri-La for spammers and a goldmine for the government who could tidy up all the loose ends of a massive database on individuals right down to their tire preferences or brand of hairspray.

CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY
From W5YI Report of 8/1/00

There are AAA, AA, C and D dry cell batteries. But do you know why there are no size A and B batteries? The AA, C and D size designations originated in the early 1900's when battery-operated "valve" (tube-type) radio receivers were widely used. Those receivers used "A" batteries (usually a lead-acid accumulator) to heat the filaments of the valves, while the "B" battery provided the high-voltage supply. New cells adopted other designations such as AA, C and D. You can still see B supply or B+ for the high voltage supply on present-day circuit diagrams. All battery designations are now standardized internationally according to IEC86, a two-part standard published by the International Electromechanical Commission in Geneva

How do liquid-crystal displays put up with the cold? During winter months, outdoor-application LCD's (such as in gas pumps) can often slow down their response time because of low temperatures. This problem is eliminated with special LCD heaters - transparent elements that keep the displays operating far above the ambient temperature. The heaters become dormant when the weather gets warmer.

Lost parents? It's practically a given that families will get separated in an amusement park. Rather than go to a lost-and-found area, you may soon be able to locate everyone in your group by simply running your wrist under a scanner at any park kiosk. Visitors to Hyland Hills Water World in Federal Heights, Colo., are testing "ParkWatch" - a wireless radar tracking device that is worn by family members. When you enter the park, you're given a RF identifying badge that looks and wears like a wristwatch. Everyone in your family or group receives the same unique ID number. If you need to find them, simply go to a kiosk and scan your badge. A system of antenna throughout the park silently interrogates the badges of all the park guests and instantly displays the locations of everyone in your group on a video monitor. The system is accurate to ten feet. Cost is $3.00 per person.

Generally, the more complex a system is, the more likely something will go wrong with it. Packing more electronic circuitry into one package (increasing circuit density) makes it more susceptible to random strikes by radiation. Alpha particles occur everywhere in nature as elements decay. Even solder can throw out such particles. Piercing an integrated circuit with no trouble at all, a single alpha particle can wreak havoc by switching on just one transistor at the wrong time. This can lead to random lock-ups of computer systems, incorrect data fields being stored in RAM, or inputs and outputs being turned on or off "by themselves."

When do you NOT want to splice a fiber-optic cable? When it could cause an explosion. Fusion splicing, a normally preferred method of joining optical fibers together, requires clean air; it's called fusion splicing because it uses a spark of

high voltage to ionize the air gap between the fiber ends to melt and "glue" them together. A spark down in a manhole could ignite flammable gases. Mechanical splicing is used in such hazardous conditions.

Trying to connect an old piece of equipment and can't find the manual? Check out www.technick.net. It contains cable printouts for hundreds of different pieces of computer equipment: modems, video monitors, serial printers, parrallel printers, disk drives, keyboards, etc. It supports information on dozens of different manufacturers, too: Amiga, Centronics, Macintosh, Radio Shack's Color Computer and many others.

Radioamateurs in Australia were officially notified (via a notice in their Federal Gazette) that they may not operate their 70-cm ham radio equipment between 440 and 450 MHz within 100 miles of the Sydney Olympic Park between July 12, 2000 and October 30, 2000. The restriction lasts until December 31. In the 421 to 432 MHz frequency band.

The rumors are that a similar 70-cm ham band restriction will be made during the Salt Lake City (Utah) XIX Winter Olympics to be held February 8 to 24, 2002. The 2002 Winter Olympic Games have been designated a National Special Security Event. The FBI has asked for a FY 2001 appropriation totaling more than $1 million to support interagency training exercises and the acquisition of telecommunications and related equipment.

Hidden DF antennas. Police and federal law-enforcement officials have a novel way of disguising certain radio-carrying surveillance vans. The antennas are hidden inside, and disguised as, long PVC pipes strapped onto the roof.

The vans look more like they belong to a plumber or a building contractor.

Federal court says "No!" to wiretapping and e-mail monitoring of private citizens. The U.S. Court of Appeals has restricted the FBI's ability to track the whereabouts of cell phone users - a capability which was approved by the FCC just last year. The court told the FCC that it was wrong to go along with the FBI's demands at the cost of privacy. The Justice Dept. had asked for authority to track the location of suspected criminals via their cellular phones. Privacy groups and the telecommunications industry took the government to court, arguing that the proposed surveillance capability - along with others the DOJ had requested to keep up with increasingly sophisticated criminals in the digital age - went beyond current law and carried the potential for abuse against law-abiding citizens. The court ruling also defined the terms that law enforcement must satisfy before monitoring new modes of communications. At risk is the FBI's new controversial "Carnivore" surveillance system which dips into the Internet to scan and capture e-mail messages to or from someone under investigation.

The National Museum of Broadcasting (Pittsburgh, PA) wants to "Save the Garage!" where radio broadcasting was born. In 1919-20, radio amateur Frank Conrad 8XK founded the broadcasting industry in a small red-brick garage behind his home on the borderline of Pittsburgh and Wilkinsburg, PA. He began twice-weekly broadcasts in late 1919, testing his equipment with various sounds and phonograph records. Westinghouse, his employer, quickly grasped the commercial applications of the medium and created KDKA radio in 1920, erecting transmitters on its own property with Conrad as the lead engineer. Conrad's garage was the backup station for the first KDKA broadcast: transmission of the presidential election results on Nov. 2, 1920. A group of historians are trying to raise $50,000 to purchase, dismantle and remove the garage to another site.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike W4EPU

Social, Ethnic, Hobby, Professional, etc. groups of all walks of life are often the subjects of jokes. The jokes vary from tasteful to downright vicious, insulting and ridiculous. Amazingly, there is one segment of society who has, for the most part, somehow escaped the wrath of such yokes. It is Amateur Radio.

However, that may not be the case for long. This is if Fred, K4DII, has his way. Fred contends that we, the Amateur Radio Community are not getting our fair share of bad mouth ridicule, insults and slander and verbal abuse and is prepared to do something about it.

For starters he has taken ordinary stories about other groups and adapted them to Ham radio. He has entitled his creations "Hate Jokes for Hams". Fred has even created fictitious characters - "Harry the Hintless Ham and his wife Martha." He apologizes in advance for the inevitable coincidence of a Ham named Harry having a wife named Martha, who may recognize themselves in some of the stories.

Now, with Fred's concurrence, of course, I shall attempt to share some samples of his works. Note that Harry is a typical Ham and Martha is, well, a not so typical XYL. Harry loves Hamfests. His favorite being the one in Orlando. Harry goes every chance he gets. Although she hates Hamfests, Martha usually goes along, mainly to make sure Harry spends his money wisely.

Last year as usual, they attended the Orlando Hamfest. Everything he wanted to buy, Martha kept yelling at him about how little money they had to spend. Harry was very patient with Martha because he knew he could outlast her and eventually she would have to stop and rest. By and by Martha excused herself, went to the snack bar, bought a cup of coffee and relaxed. It didn't take Harry long to buy all the junk he could carry. He took it out the side door and put it in the trunk of his car and Martha never knew a thing about it. On the way home they saw a sign advertising a gas station that said, "Clean Restrooms Ahead". By the time they reached Titusville they had cleaned twenty.

There are too many of Fred's Q&A'a to include all of them here, but a small sampling follows:

What's the difference between a Ham rig and a coffin? A coffin has a corpse INSIDE.

Why did Harry get mad at Martha? She turned a knob on his Ham radio and wouldn't tell him which one.

Little Harry: "Mom, I want to be a Ham when I grow up!" Mother: "But son, you can't do both!"

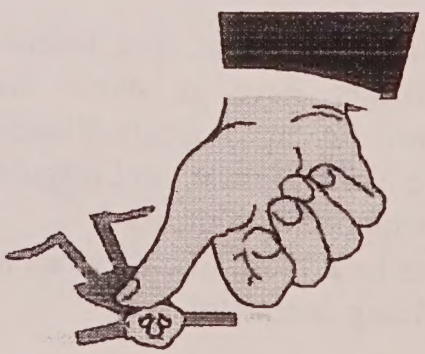
What is the difference between a Ham rig and an onion? Nobody cries when you chop a Ham rig into little pieces.

What's the range of a good Ham rig?
About twenty yards if you have a good arm.

What's the difference between a Ham and a sack of fertilizer? The sack.

How do you make a Ham float? Take two scoops of ice cream, coke, one Ham.

And finally - Is it legal for a Ham to marry his widow's sister???



T22REASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 1999	$4333.03
Deposits Year to Date	3013.35
TOTAL INCOME	**$7346.38**
Expenditures	3259.50
BALANCE AS AT 8/31/00	**$4086.88**

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 267-3450
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Denman, KD4HNW. 269-5711
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Grant Hahne, KF4IGK. 269-6484
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD MEMBERS

Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

AUGUST MINUTES

By Becky, KF4HTB

After the opening ceremonies Bud K4CWG reminded everyone that the annual Pot Luck Supper would be held on September 26 at 6:30 PM at the Jaycee Building. Bring a covered dish.

Wes AF4N gave an update on the 97 repeater. The weather station is now hooked up. 777 brings it up and 888 takes it down.

Bill Eppley W2SDB played "Happy Birthday" and several other tunes on his harmonica.

Bill Robb ("Gator Bill") and Jo Jordan KE4AEB presented a most interesting program and explained how they hunted down and captured alligators that wander into areas where they become a threat to humans and their pets Gator Bill showed slides of some of the alligators they have captured. Jo brought in a live alligator and passed it around for all who dared to touch. Of course it was trussed up.

After the food break, Bud told the club that the ham radio equipment owned by the City of Titusville has been moved to the police station and a station, to be used in emergencies, has been set up. There is an antenna on top of the police station.

Stephanie K4MVO talked about the Technician Class class she will be teaching. Classes will start on September 11, starting at 6:30 (theory) and 7:30 (code). Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays. There will be 10 classes (5 weeks). The cost is for material only in the amount of $14.25.

Bud told of attending a BEARS meeting. He complimented Stephanie on her handling of that meeting.

Anthony KG4CEB mentioned the current hurricane possibility and reminded everyone to charge up their batteries and prepare - just in case.

The Melbourne Hamfest is September 9. Sherry has tickets.

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

Don't forget!! Sept. 26 at 6:30
Pot Luck Supper

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
Total membership: 221 (150 regular, 53 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

NEW MEMBER: None
RENEWALS: KE4NYA Mathaus Keller
W4WHL Wilbur Legra

HAMFESTS:	9/9-10	MELBOURNE
	9/16	LANTANA
	9/24	NEW PORT RICHEY
	9/30	DAYTONA BEACH
	10/14	TAMPA
	10/13-14	STARKE
	10/14	SUNRISE
	10/21	W.PALM BEACH
	10/28	JACKSONVILLE
	11/4	SORRENTO
	11/11	PORT ST. LUCIE
	12/2	OKEECHOBEE
	12/2-3	PALMETTO
	12/9	LAKE CITY